

Practitioner's Docket No.: 788_119

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

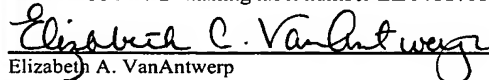
In re the application of: Sunao TANAKA and Masaki KUMAGAI

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

For: METHOD OF JOINING TOGETHER TWO PLANAR MEMBERS BY
FRICTION STIR WELDING, AND TAB PLATE USED IN THE SAME
METHOD

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination, Applicants wish to amend the subject application as follows:

Amendments to the Abstract begin on page 2 of this paper and include an attached replacement sheet pursuant to 37 CFR 1.72.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including new Abstract is attached following page 3 of this paper.